

House Study Bill 575

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS AFFAIRS BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON ZIRKELBACH)

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing a veterans assistance grant fund and
2 providing an appropriation.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
4 TLSB 5117HC 82
5 ec/rj/24

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1 1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 35A.16 VETERANS ASSISTANCE GRANT
1 2 FUND.
1 3 1. For the purposes of this section, "veteran" means the
1 4 same as defined in section 35.1 or a resident of this state
1 5 who served in the armed forces of the United States, completed
1 6 a minimum aggregate of ninety days of active federal service,
1 7 and was discharged under honorable conditions.
1 8 2. A veterans assistance grant fund is created in the
1 9 state treasury under the control of the department.
1 10 3. The grant fund shall consist of all of the following:
1 11 a. Moneys in the form of a devise, gift, bequest,
1 12 donation, federal or other grant, reimbursement, repayment,
1 13 judgment, transfer, payment, or appropriation from any source
1 14 intended to be used for the purposes of the grant fund.
1 15 b. Interest attributable to investment of moneys in the
1 16 fund. Notwithstanding section 12C.7, subsection 2, interest
1 17 or earnings on moneys in the grant fund shall be credited to
1 18 the grant fund.
1 19 4. Moneys credited to the grant fund shall not be
1 20 transferred, used, obligated, appropriated, or otherwise
1 21 encumbered, except as provided in this section. Moneys in the
1 22 grant fund may be used for cash flow purposes during a fiscal
1 23 year provided that any moneys so allocated are returned to the
1 24 grant fund by the end of that fiscal year.
1 25 5. Moneys in the grant fund may be expended by the
1 26 department for any of the following purposes:
1 27 a. Hardship grants to veterans.
1 28 b. Reimbursement of expenses incurred by county
1 29 commissions of veteran affairs for burial expenses of veterans
1 30 or programs providing assistance to indigent veterans.
1 31 c. Community projects for veterans by a qualified
1 32 organization representing veterans, as defined by section
1 33 99B.7B.
1 34 6. The department shall adopt rules governing the
1 35 distribution of grants under this section.
2 1 Sec. 2. Section 99G.39, subsection 1, Code 2007, is
2 2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:
2 3 NEW PARAGRAPH. c. Two million dollars each fiscal year
2 4 shall be deposited in the veterans assistance grant fund
2 5 created in section 35A.16.

EXPLANATION

2 7 This bill creates a veterans assistance grant fund. Moneys
2 8 in the fund may be expended by the department of veterans
2 9 affairs for hardship grants to veterans, reimbursement of
2 10 expenses incurred by county commissions of veteran affairs for
2 11 burial expenses of veterans or programs providing assistance
2 12 to indigent veterans, and community projects for veterans by
2 13 qualified veterans organizations. Interest and earnings on
2 14 moneys in the fund shall remain in the fund.
2 15 The bill also provides that \$2 million each fiscal year
2 16 shall be deposited in the grant fund from lottery authority
2 17 revenues.
2 18 LSB 5117HC 82

